

CLAIMS OF THE INVENTION

I CLAIM:

1. A method of a consumer purchasing music in electronic form from a plurality of providers via a single source comprising the steps of:

establishing an electronic communication link between a first computing device utilized by said consumer and a device associated with said single source;

said single source accepting an identification of music content desired by said consumer;

said single source identifying at least one source of music content from said plurality of music providers offering music content;

said single source accessing an account of said consumer to provide payment for the desired music content; and

transmitting data in electronic form representing the desired music content from said at least one source of music content to said first computing device over an electronic communication link.

2. The method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of establishing a communication link comprises a server of said single source providing information to said first computing device via a communication path, at least a portion of said path comprising the Internet.

3. The method in accordance with Claim 1 including the step of said single source creating said account of said consumer.

4. The method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of creating said account comprises accepting information regarding said consumer and accepting monetary funds for association with said account.

5. The method in accordance with Claim 1 including the step of said single source collecting music content information available from said plurality of content providers.

6. The method in accordance with Claim 5 including the step of providing some or all of said music content information to said consumer.

7. The method in accordance with Claim 5 wherein said step of accepting an identification of music content desired by said consumer comprises accepting input regarding particular music content information collected by said single source.

8. The method in accordance with Claim 5 including the step of displaying results of particular music content information matching said music content identified by said consumer and accepting selection of some or all of said music content information results.

9. The method in accordance with Claim 8 wherein said results comprise the identify of the one or more music content providers providing the identified content and the price of that content.

10. The method in accordance with Claim 1 including the step of said single source paying said music provider providing said data representing said music content for said content.

11. The method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of transmitting said data comprises transmitting said data by a second communication link from said music provider to said single source and then from said single source to said first computing device.

12. A method of identifying a source of data representing music content comprising the steps of:

establishing an electronic communication link between a first computing device utilized by said consumer and a device associated with a single music information source;

accepting an identification of music content desired by said consumer via said electronic communication link;

generating information identifying one or more sources capable of providing music data representing the music content desired by said consumer;

transmitting said information identifying said one or more sources to said consumer via said communication link;

accepting input from said user of one of said one or more sources from which to obtain said music data; and

transmitting music data representing the desired music content to said consumer.

13. The method in accordance with Claim 12 wherein said information identifying said one or more sources which is transmitted to said consumer includes pricing information of the desired content from each of the one or more sources.

14. The method in accordance with Claim 13 wherein said sources are identified in order from the source providing the content at the lowest price to the source providing the content at the highest price.